

held the fourth through eighth grades under one roof. As a fifth grader, we weren't the new kids any more, getting used to a new school. And we certainly weren't the oldest or the coolest. We weren't in junior high and we didn't get outdoor camp like the sixth graders. We were in sort of a "tweener" grade for a tweener age—long before any of us knew there was any such thing as a tween.

But what we lacked in age rights or age slights, we made up for in our teacher, Leslie Woody. With a Bachelor's degree from Colorado College, Mrs. Woody began her teaching career in 1980, and after 34 years in the Yuma School District RJ-1 (and a Master's degree along the way), retired this year. It's hard to believe that anyone can stay in the same workplace for 34 years; today, the average length of a job is just under 5 years. But for the hundreds of kids who were lucky enough to call her our teacher, we are very glad (and blessed) that she did. It's hard to believe she had only been teaching for 5 years when she met the motley class of 1993!

She taught us to be happy (it's hard to do!). Positive about life. To surprise people with optimism.

And she was the Superspeller's super coach. I couldn't spell bupkis (sp?) without her. She taught us to compete, to excel, and not be afraid. To work hard and study. We made it to the district, regional, and state spelling bees. We got crushed by the students from St. Mary's, but we made it nonetheless. We gained confidence that only comes from hard work and perseverance and hours of practice. Perhaps the most important thing, and her secret lesson plan all along, was that Mrs. Woody taught us the lesson of how to learn.

Our daughter is entering fifth grade this year. And while Mrs. Woody will not be teaching her, there are other great teachers who will shape her young life the way Mrs. Woody shaped ours, something Jaime and I are certainly grateful for. But no one can ever replace the special place for a special teacher who helped make someone—who helped make me—who they are today.

For your years of service to our children and the future, and for the impact you had on my life, thank you. Please accept this recognition from one member of the United States House of Representatives and your student, knowing you made a difference.

Thank you. T-h-a-n-k y-o-u. Thank you.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. BILL FLORES

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 23, 2014

Mr. FLORES. Mr. Speaker, on rollcall 433 I inadvertently voted "nay" when I intended to vote "yea." I would like to make it clear that I support H.R. 4450, the Travel Promotion, Enhancement, and Modernization Act of 2014.

HONORING KILLEEN, TEXAS
DETECTIVE CHARLES DINWIDDIE

HON. JOHN R. CARTER

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 23, 2014

Mr. CARTER. Mr. Speaker, it is with a heavy heart that I rise to honor the life and service of Killeen, TX Detective Charles Dinwiddie who was tragically killed in the line of duty in May. His loss is a sobering reminder of the bravery and sacrifice of our nation's law enforcement officers.

Detective Dinwiddie was born in Frankfurt, Germany but grew up in Harker Heights, TX. He shouldered many responsibilities during his 18 years with the Killeen Police Department: Patrol Division, Criminal Investigation Division, SWAT, and more. Detective Dinwiddie, a mentor and role model to other officers, was relied upon to conduct the most difficult and complex investigations.

As a former judge, I know firsthand the essential role police officers play in maintaining law and order and the risks they face every time they report for duty. These brave men and women awake each day uncertain of what dangers await. Yet they carry on, strengthened by their resolve to protect and serve. Police officers, be they big city beat cops or small town sheriffs, help preserve our way of life and guard us from those lost souls who wish harm to others.

While Detective Dinwiddie's watch has ended, his legacy and the commitment of all who wear the badge live on. My thoughts and prayers are with his wife, family, friends, and the entire Killeen community. Let us all honor and remember a man who gave his life to protect his fellow citizens.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. GARY C. PETERS

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 23, 2014

Mr. PETERS of Michigan. Mr. Speaker, on Tuesday, July 22, 2014 I was not present for 4 votes. I wish the record to reflect my intentions had I been present to vote.

Had I been present for rollcall No. 433, I would have voted "yea."

Had I been present for rollcall No. 434, I would have voted "yea."

Had I been present for rollcall No. 435, I would have voted "yea."

Had I been present for rollcall No. 436, I would have voted "yea."

IN RECOGNITION OF ROBERT KILPATRICK

HON. DUNCAN HUNTER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 23, 2014

Mr. HUNTER. Mr. Speaker, within this great institution, we often honor notable Americans who dedicate themselves, whether personally or professionally, to serving this nation and strengthening its core. I am honored today to

continue this tradition and pay tribute to Robert Kilpatrick, who recently retired after many good years as President and General Manager of BAE Systems, San Diego Ship Repair.

Robert was no stranger to shipyards—notching more than 30 years of experience in an industry that is critical to both America's global security and competitiveness. He started with the company in 1981, when he joined what is now BAE Systems San Francisco Ship Repair as an Electrical Estimator for shipboard communication and power installations. In the years that followed, Robert held various positions within the company and in January 2004, he was promoted to President and General Manager. Ask anyone who knows Robert and they'll tell you he's a proven leader with authentic talent and skills.

Mr. Speaker, I have always believed that a strong Navy and sealift capability is the foundation of our nation. As a Marine, I never floated, meaning I never went out to sea, but you don't have to be on a vessel or part of an ocean crew to appreciate the value and the power of a steel-clad ship that is capable of sailing the world. The ingenuity and know-how required to build and maintain these vessels is a national asset—and so too are the men and women who work in America's shipyards. Robert's experience and leadership has been invaluable and surely his mentorship will be no less influential for the future of San Diego Ship Repair.

I want to congratulate Robert on his retirement and wish him happiness in the years to come. I also want to recognize Robert's wife of 26 years, Michele, and his two sons, Keith and Kyle. Surely, they are proud of Robert for an honorable and distinguished career. And, on behalf of this body, we are thankful for his service and wish him all the best as he enjoys his retirement.

RECOGNIZING DUY BUI AND DIVERSE SCHOLARS FORUM

HON. KENNY MARCHANT

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 23, 2014

Mr. MARCHANT. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Duy Bui, a constituent of mine from Carrollton, Texas, who is a rising junior at the University of Texas at Dallas, majoring in biochemistry, and a recipient of the United Health Foundation Diverse Scholars Initiative scholarship. This week, Duy will be in Washington, DC participating in the Diverse Scholars Forum, during which time he will have a unique opportunity to interact with experts in various health care fields, engage with policymakers, and network with his peers. Additionally, he will spend an afternoon here on Capitol Hill to participate in an activity to examine some of the nation's most pressing health care problems and discuss proposed solutions. Beyond his significant academic achievements and his goal to become a physician to change the way health care is administered and communicated, Duy has spent a significant amount of time giving back to his community.

I would like to extend my sincere appreciation for Duy's dedication to making the health care system more enriched by professionals with varied perspectives and backgrounds. His